

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING WAR BRIDES

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2007

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a group of women who played a profound but under-appreciated role in America's stand against the Axis Powers during the Second World War. Known as War Brides, these women met our soldiers during the war while they were stationed overseas, eventually coming to the United States after the war as their wives. Women such as Sylvia Harris, a constituent of mine, boosted the wartime morale of our bravest men during that dark period in human history.

While we are all familiar with the stories of the Greatest Generation, less often told are the stories of those women who came to this country as War Brides. These extraordinary individuals left their families and cultures behind to follow the men they fell in love with. They adopted the United States of America as their home, raising children and supporting their husbands. They embodied the notion and reality of the Greatest Generation by pledging their allegiance to the United States and to the soldiers who bravely fought for freedom around the world.

War Brides overcame not only physical barriers, often traveling months by train and boat to rejoin their husbands, but also xenophobia in many cases, making the transition to their newly-adopted country all the more difficult. They are a testament to the evolution of social and cultural equality in this country, bringing with them the traditions of countless cultures that make America the wonderful melting pot that it is.

Madam Speaker, I am proud that on this, the 61st anniversary of the emigration of thousands of War Brides into the United States of America, Mrs. Harris brought to my attention the invaluable contribution of these remarkable women to our country.

Madam Speaker, love and the union of marriage are extraordinarily powerful; they have been known to save lives, spurring soldiers to persevere with purpose for the sake of loved ones. Just as we remember those who kept the home fires burning here in the United States during the Second World War, we should pay tribute to those women who formed bonds with and inspired our soldiers abroad during that conflict. Whether coming from Europe, Africa, Asia, or Australia, these women hold an important place in the history and free democracy of the United States, and I urge all my colleagues to join me in saluting their bravery and resilience.

HONORING WILLIAM DELMONT,
LACKAWANNA CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE CITIZEN OF THE
YEAR

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2007

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, tomorrow, Wednesday, March 28, 2007, the Chamber of Commerce of the great City of Lackawanna, New York will name its annual Citizen of the Year. While many great Western New Yorkers have been so honored by the Chamber over the years, in 2007 the Chamber will bestow this honor upon one of the greats in the city's history—the founder, publisher and editor of the Front Page newspaper, William Delmont.

As publisher of the weekly publications Front Page and South Buffalo News, Bill has been a journalistic icon in Western New York. Long the official publication for numerous local governments and school districts, Bill's newspapers maintain a hometown flavor that is rarely seen in this day and age.

Most of all, however, Bill Delmont is one of Lackawanna's many treasures. A longtime business owner, entrepreneur and civic leader, Bill Delmont's dedication to his hometown is inspirational indeed. Bill has long been a fighter for Lackawanna and for its citizens, and has consistently strived to provide opportunities to those citizens, be it in public service or in the private sector.

Bill has been honored many times over for his commitment to Lackawanna, as an honoree of the Lake Erie Italian Club, the Lackawanna Area Historical Association, the Our Lady of Victory Hospital, and the Matthew Glab Post 1477, and was recently named a Paul Harris Fellow by the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International.

One of Bill's most significant accomplishments has been his decades-long leadership of the Erie County Conservative Party. Bill is perhaps the wisest political sage in Western New York, and I suspect that not one serious candidate for high political office in Western New York failed to call upon Bill for advice and counsel over the years. Since my first run for public office in 1987, Bill Delmont has stood with me as a trusted adviser and friend whose support I have been proud to receive. It would be impossible for me to adequately recount or repay his many kindnesses and courtesies to me, both personally as well as professionally, but it is very fitting, Madam Speaker, that I ask you and all of our colleagues here join me in offering our most sincere congratulations to Lackawanna, New York's favorite son, Bill Delmont, upon his receipt of this prestigious honor.

HONORING MR. JOHN DAU

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2007

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. John Dau of Syracuse, New York.

Mr. Dau has dedicated his life to helping others in his native country of Sudan to get a chance at a better life. He has done amazing humanitarian work for his fellow Sudanese people, including raising money for the building of a clinic in his home village and raising awareness about the plight of the Sudanese in general.

National Geographic has recently named Mr. Dau one of the eight emerging explorers of 2007. Those given this title are adventurers, scientists, photographers, and storytellers that are said to be making a difference in their prospective fields. The National Geographic executive vice president for mission programs has referred to Mr. Dau as a "visionary individual" and asserted that he was precisely the sort of individual National Geographic was looking for when choosing emerging explorers.

With the money from this award, Mr. Dau is going to send other "Lost Boys", or Sudanese who spent their adolescence fleeing war, famine, and slavery, to school in Kenya and Uganda. Mr. Dau is an accomplished humanitarian, and it is for this reason that I rise today to recognize his great work.

HONORING MOUNTAIN FIFES AND
DRUMS FOR THEIR LEADERSHIP
AND SKILL IN YOUTH MUSIC

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to stand today in recognition of the Mountain Fifes and Drums, a volunteer music program located in Lake Arrowhead, California, that specializes in providing unique instruction, history, and leadership skills to 60 young people.

I am delighted to report that on May 12, members of the Mountain Fifes and Drums will be leading the processional march at the America's 400th anniversary celebration in Jamestown, Virginia. This celebration will be chaired by Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, and is expected to feature guest appearances by Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh. Is it an honor to be recognized at a historical event of such a high caliber, and I congratulate the Mountain Fifes and Drums for representing California at this national celebration.

Founded in 2001 by Lake Arrowhead residents Cindy Olson and Kevin Garland, the Mountain Fifes and Drums has become one of

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